

The Manual Alphabets

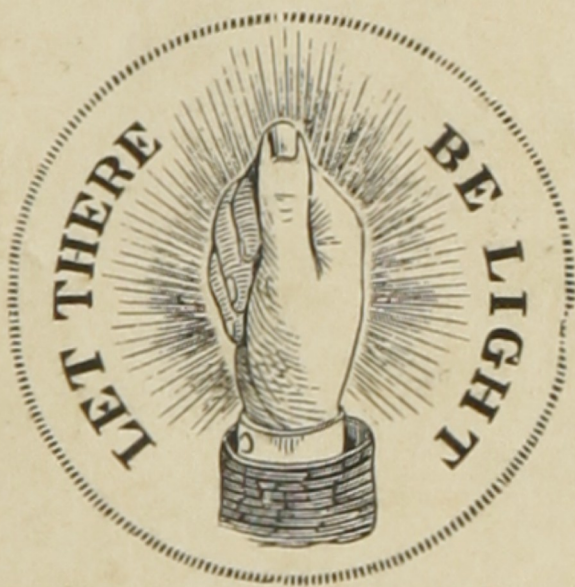
AND

Some Common Signs

OF

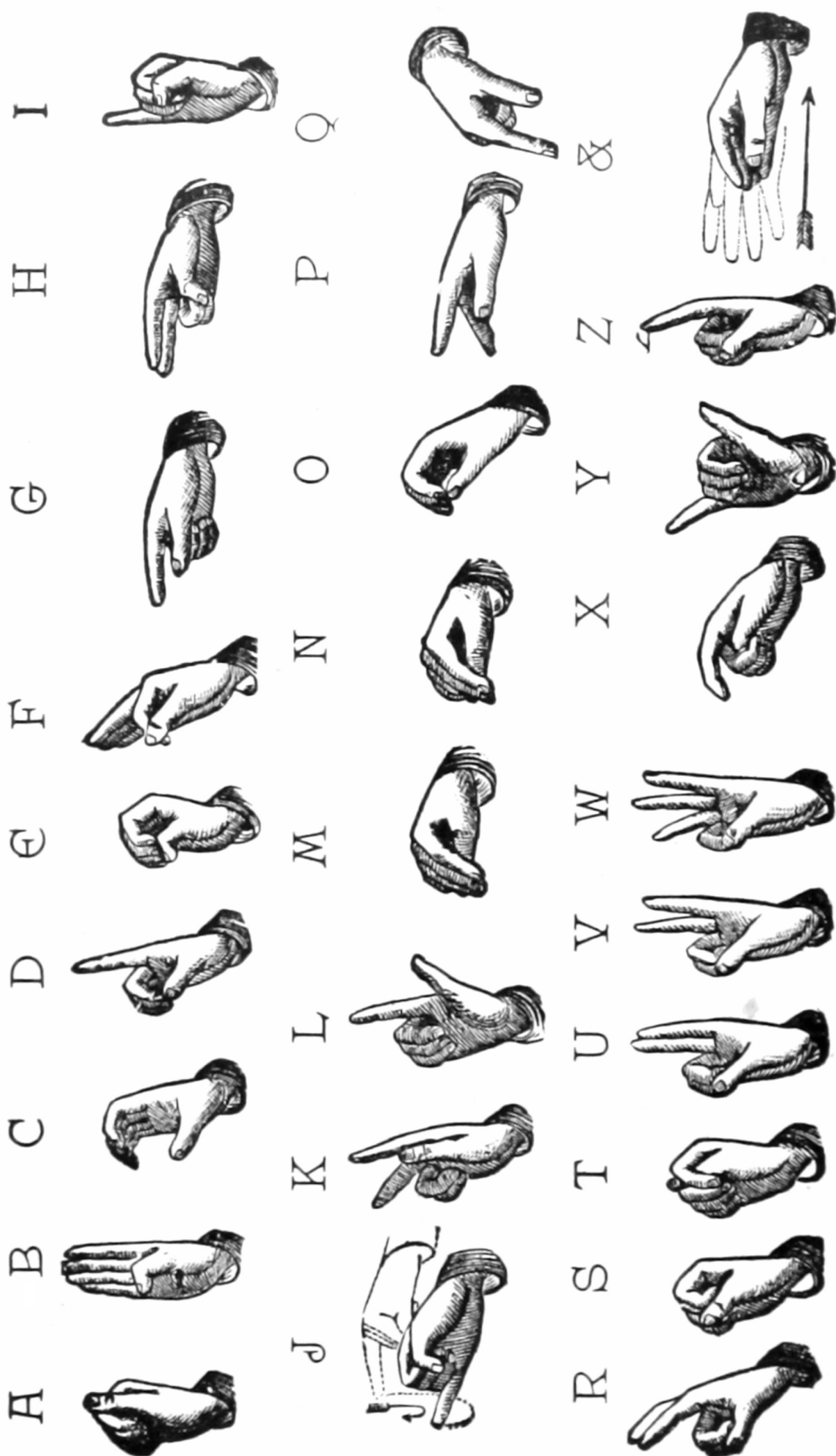
the American Deaf

With Much Other Information of Value



MOTTO OF OHIO SCHOOL

AMERICAN SINGLE HAND ALPHABET.



THE MANUAL ALPHABET.

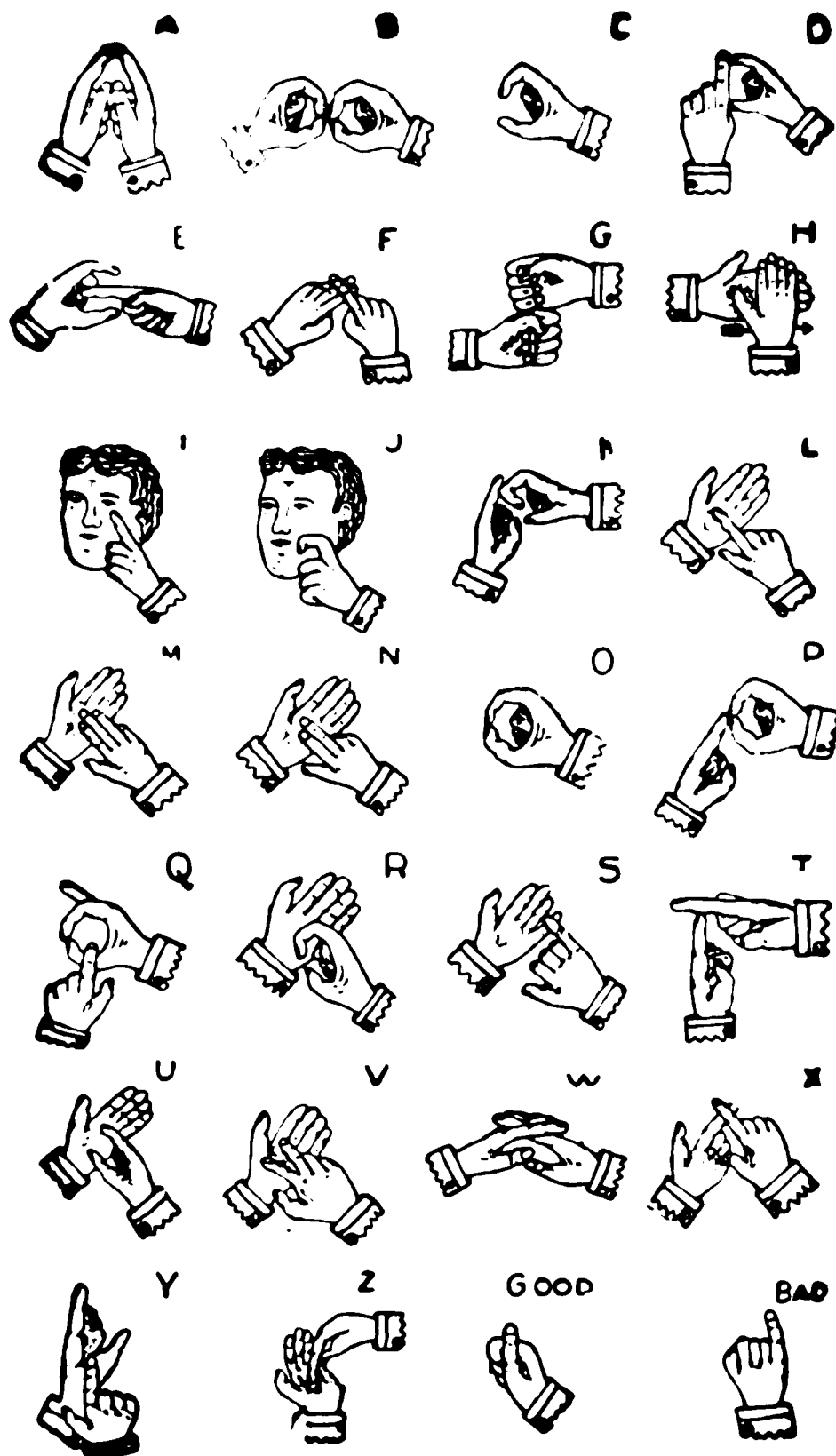
ALTHOUGH the alphabet is chiefly used by the deaf, it is believed that it can be learned and used by many hearing people with advantage. Taken up as a pastime, it has been proved useful in business and in the home. It is of special value in the sick room, and it has been used by many, after the voice was gone, to convey messages of importance and last words of love, trust and peace. As a means of intercourse with the deaf, it is preferable to writing on paper, being more rapid and convenient. It can be advantageously used in teaching hearing children to spell well.

This alphabet can be learned in an hour. It has been learned by close application in ten minutes. We give below

DIRECTIONS FOR ITS USE.

1. Hold the arm in an easy position near the body, hand up, and palm outward.
2. Deliver the letters steadily within an imaginary immovable circle of about ten inches.
3. Do not turn the hand around in spelling, but keep the palm of the hand to the front.
4. Master each letter before leaving it.

Certain letters as c, d, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, q, u, v, w and z resemble written or printed forms. J is simply traced in the air with the little finger, and z in like manner with the index finger. H, n and u differ only in the position of the hand, and t is formed as in "taking off a baby's nose." These ten words contain all the letters: "adz, fan, map, cow, box, jar, sky, hat, quill, glove" Practice on each of these for five minutes. Spell something every day. Speed and ease will come with use.



AMERICAN DOUBLE HAND ALPHABET

This alphabet is the one used by many hearing people as well as the deaf of America. It is easily acquired, and is valuable for conversing with the deaf when the single-hand alphabet is not known. Every deaf-mute should know it.

THE SIGN LANGUAGE IS SIMPLE AND UNIVERSAL

The sign language is simple. It is common to all nations. It perhaps was developed long before the art of speaking. It is natural to use gestures and signs to emphasize one's ideas in speaking. These gestures may express entire sentences. For instance, the traffic patrolmen in crowded thoroughfares in New York, use the sign language. They are on duty all day directing the traffic of vehicles, and perhaps never speak one word.

Baseball players have a sign language. Every sport has given rise to certain gestures or signs that are perfectly natural and understood easily by persons not versed in that special activity. Children and grown-ups use gestures, and, therefore, signs instinctively. More than 100 signs are used by the children in the public schools. There are 3,000 signs that students of the language have picked up. A person can communicate his thoughts intelligently with 600 of them. The ordinary person uses a vocabulary of not more than 2,000 words.

Chief Scout Seton has prepared a dictionary of signs, with illustrations, which will soon be ready, not for the use of the scouts only, but for all persons who are interested in learning the sign language. "Every person uses signs," says Chief Scout Seton, "but the Boy Scouts in developing it are spreading it throughout the entire world, and are putting into practice the real Esperanto language. They will naturally come in closer contact with one another, and will be united in a universal brotherhood. What can be more helpful in the promotion of universal peace? I hope every Boy Scout will study the sign-language."—*Excerpt from Newspaper.*

DESCRIPTION OF THE MOST COMMON SIGNS OF THE DEAF-MUTE.

BELOW we give a few of the signs used by deaf-mutes. Parents and others interested in the deaf can easily learn them, and will find them useful in communicating with their children or friends.

A few of these signs used now and then in conjunction with finger spelling add warmth and ease to a talk with a deaf person. At table it is easy to say, "Bread, please," "Coffee, please," etc. "I know," "I think," "Thank you," etc., are familiar expressions easy to sign. Try them and see. It is quite sufficient to know just a few, and you can pick up what other signs you think you need to know.

Good—Kiss the hand toward the object.

Bad—Bring the hand to the lips and then throw it from you, palm downward.

Glad—Pat the heart rapidly with a pleased look.

Sorry—Rub the clenched hand over the heart with a sad look.

Please—Move the palm of the hand over the heart with an appealing expression.

Love—Cross the hands and press them over the heart.

Hate—Push both hands, the palms out, from the heart as if repelling something.

True—Place the forefinger perpendicularly across the lips and thrust it forward in a straight line.

Lie—Move the forefinger across the mouth horizontally.

I like—Point to yourself and move the palm of the hand over the heart with a pleased expression.

I want—Point to yourself and move the fingers of your extended hands quickly several times.

- Think*—Place the end of the forefinger upon the forehead with an expression of thoughtfulness.
- Forget*—Draw the palm of the hand across the forehead, as if to rub something from it.
- Know*—Pat the forehead two or three times with the ends of the fingers.
- Bread*—With right B hand cross back of the left open hand as if cutting bread.
- Butter*—Using right H hand act as if buttering on left palm.
- Meat*—With right forefinger and thumb grasp the flesh between left forefinger and thumb and shake it slightly.
- Potato*—Act as if forking left hand with right forefinger and middle finger.
- Apple*—Form S on your right hand and act as if you nibble at it.
- Coffee*—Form the letter S with both hands, and move them one over the other as if grinding something.
- Milk*—Imitate the act of milking a cow.
- Tea*—With right closed thumb and forefinger act if stirring tea with teaspoon in your left O hand.
- White*—Place the tips of the extended fingers upon the breast and move the hand away, gradually closing the fingers.
- Black*—Draw the end of the forefinger over the eyebrow.
- Red*—Draw the end of the forefinger downward across the lower lip two or three times.
- Blue*—Form the letter “b,” and turn the hand rapidly in and out.
- Green*—Form the letter “g,” and move the hand the same way.
- God*—Raise the extended right hand slowly and reverently toward the heavens.
- Man*—All civilized men wear hats, and the majority in bowing remove their hats. Therefore in

signifying a man, the mutes generally motion the removal of the hat, then place their hand high or low, according to the person's height. *Boys*—Is the same, but is always represented as shorter in stature.

Woman—In the old times bonnets and caps were tied under the chin. Hence in representing a woman a thumb is passed along the edge of the chin, the hand as in man held higher or lower.

Girls—The same, but shorter of stature.

Dress—Pass the hand downward from the neck.

Chickens—Placing finger and thumb together near the lips, open and close them as fowls do their bills; next, with thumb and two fingers scratch the palm of the other hand, thus representing one of their habits.

Any word expressive of an action—Imitate the action as, for "sleep," imitate the act of sleeping; for "eat," the act of eating; for "swim," the act of swimming, etc.

One—Hold up forefinger of either hand.

Two—Hold up forefinger and middle finger.

Three—Same as two, add thumb.

Four—Hold up the four fingers.

Five—Same as four, add thumb.

Six—Join thumb to end of little finger.

Seven—Thumb to third finger. *Eight*—To middle finger. *Nine*—To forefinger.

Ten—Hold up thumb and move to both sides.

Eleven and up to nineteen—Same as ten and add one, and so on.

Twenty—Hold up forefinger and thumb and then form letter O. In same way numbers up to 99 are formed.

Hundred—Is indicated by the letter C. "Two C six six" is two hundred sixty-six, etc.

These written signs will suggest many others to one anxious to communicate with a deaf child.

HOW THE DEAF ARE EDUCATED.

Nearly every State in the Union supports a State School where children who are too deaf to be educated in the public schools, may be sent to be educated. These schools are boarding schools where the pupils remain from eight to nine months each year, and for from eight to fourteen years. They are all free schools, board, medical attention and tuition being furnished entirely free, parents paying only for traveling expenses, clothing, books and incidental expenses.

In many states the law requires counties to pay the expenses of children whose parents are unable to do so. The children study the common branches taught in the public schools, receive moral and religious instruction, are taught various trades and finally leave able to take their places in the world as self-supporting citizens.

It is highly important that a deaf person should be educated, because he is shut off from useful communication with his neighbors unless he is educated. Therefore, if you should find any deaf child, please do all you can to get it in the State School. The location of the School may be ascertained by inquiry at any post office. Also in some large cities day schools for the deaf are maintained. Inquire of the Superintendent of City Schools in regard to the same.

The picture of the Ohio State School for the Deaf on page 12 gives some idea of the importance of deaf-mute education as exemplified in one state. This school was founded in 1827. See 13 for some U. S. School statistics.

HISTORY OF THE MANUAL ALPHABET.

THE origin of the art of dactyology is not known but evidences of its existence have been traced from the Assyrian antiquities down to the Fifteenth century upon monuments of art. The Venerable Bede, "the wise Saxon, described finger-spelling more than a thousand years ago, and three manual alphabets are figured in an edition of his work printed in 1532.

Monks, under rigid vows of silence and other scholars who had special reasons to prize secret and silent modes of communication, beyond doubt invented and used many forms of manual alphabets. Rossellius, a Florentine monk, figured no less than three one-hand alphabets in 1579. Two-hand alphabets or mixed alphabets of various forms were in use among the school boys in Spain, France and England centuries ago.

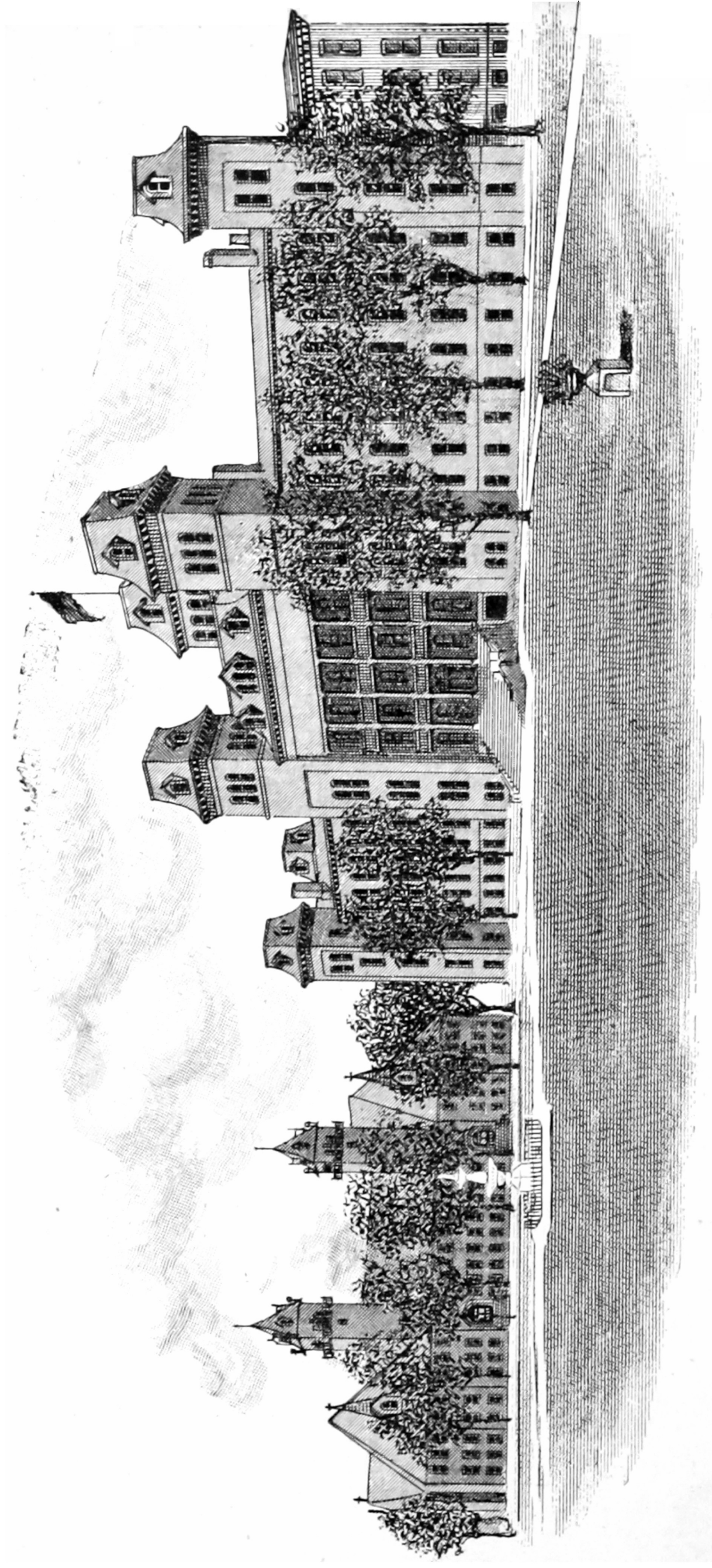
The first finger alphabet adopted in teaching spoken and written language to the deaf was the Spanish one-hand alphabet, which contains certain forms found in the Florentine plates in 1579. The happy thought of that adaptation is attributed to the pious and learned monk Pedro Ponce de Leon (1520-1584). This alphabet, beautifully engraved, appears in the famous work of Juan Pablo Bonet, secretary to the Constable of Castile, which was published a century after the birth of Ponce, or in 1620. This work, borrowed largely from Ponce, no doubt, is the oldest practical treatise extant upon the art of teaching the deaf-born to speak and use the common language of life.

The Spanish alphabet, somewhat modified, was in-

troduced into France by the brilliant Piereire, and his gifted deaf pupil, Saboureaux de Fontenay, where it speedily supplanted the clumsy alphabets employed in teaching the deaf by the Abbe De l'Epee and the Abbe Deschamps. The same alphabet, with a few slight changes, was adopted by Dr. T. H. Gallaudet in the school for deaf children at Hartford, Conn., in 1817, and it is now known in almost every hamlet in the land. This alphabet, in conjunction with the system of signs, has been the means of turning persons who would have otherwise remained ignorant, burdensome and irresponsible, into intelligent, self-supporting and Christian citizens.

During recent years a system of articulation and lip-reading teaching has sprung into favor, but it is quite impossible to educate the larger number of the deaf successfully by signs so small as those given by the mere lips. Speech to the hearing is sound indeed, but to the deaf it is nothing but signs of sounds, many of them way behind the lips and invisible. The reading of the lips by a deaf person, when well done, is thus a most wonderful thing.





OHIO STATE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AT COLUMBUS.

Established by the State in 1827. Has taught 3660 children. Property valued at \$900,000. Education free. For terms of admission, write to the Superintendent, J. W. Jones.

SOME FACTS ABOUT AMERICAN SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF.

First American public school for the deaf opened in Hartford, Conn., in April, 1817.

Present number of schools in the U. S., 148—62 state schools, 66 city day schools, 20 denominational and private schools.

Total number of pupils within year ending November 10, 1911,—13,579. Total number of teachers (including superintendents and industrial teachers)—1706.

Total number have received instruction in all state schools since 1817—68,064 (Ohio 3660).

Value of buildings and grounds of 62 State Schools, \$17,418,480 (Ohio , \$900,000).

Expenditure 1910-1911 of same for support and buildings and grounds, approximately, \$3,540,000 (Ohio \$143,600).

Largest schools in the U. S.—Pennsylvania Institution at Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, 530 pupils; valued at \$1,000,000. Second—St. Joseph's Institute, near New York City, 494. Third—New York Institution—490. Fourth—Ohio School, 464.

Seven Schools in Canada; 815 pupils enrolled in 1910-1911; Value of buildings \$1700,000.

Number of deaf-mutes in the United States, about 55,000. Ratio, one deaf-mute to every 1500 of population.



OHIO
HOME
FOR
AGED
AND
INFIRM
DEAF

THIS HOME is situated at Central College, Franklin County, Ohio, eleven miles, northeast of Columbus. It is the property of the Ohio Deaf-Mute Alumni Association, which is composed exclusively of the former pupils of the Ohio State School for the Deaf at Columbus. It was opened on December 12, 1896.

The object of the Home is to take care of such of the deaf of the State as are incapacitated by reason of age or other infirmity, from taking care of themselves, to the end that they may have the comforts of a home where they can associate with each other, and have the consolation of religious services in their own language of signs, instead of being sent to the county infirmaries.

The Home is managed by a Board of Managers, of which Robert Patterson, principal of the Ohio School for the Deaf, is the president; R. P. MacGregor, teacher in the same school, secretary; A. B. Greener, teacher, financial secretary, and C. W. Charles, editor, treasurer.

Donations and bequests in any amount are solicited from the alumni and other friends, and may be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. Charles, State School for the Deaf, Columbus, Ohio. Inquiries of any kind in regard to the Home will be cheerfully answered by the Secretary.

CONCERNING IMPOSTERS.

We would like to warn our hearing friends about imposters who pretend to be deaf and dumb and ask gifts of money at houses, shops, or offices by presenting a card saying they are "deaf and dumb" and need help "to go to school," or to take care of a family.

In most cases such beggars are IMPOSTERS. Many of them are able-bodied.

Some hearing persons find the "deaf and dumb game" an easy and successful one, and make a trade of it.

We say *positively that very, very few real deaf-mutes beg.*

The real deaf-mutes, most of whom have been educated in state schools, are self-respecting and self-supporting.

Therefore, when you see any "deaf and dumb" man begging, REFUSE to give him anything. Better still, call the police and have him arrested as a vagrant.

Sometimes the "deaf and dumb" man turns to be a regular crook with a long prison record who adopts this method of house-to-house begging with a view to find opportunities for thieving.

Therefore please help us and NEVER give anything to "deaf and dumb" beggars.

We the deaf are anxious for the public to understand our true status in society, for many of them do not see deaf-mutes and often get wrong notions about them.

"COMPLETE MANUAL OF THE SIGN- LANGUAGE."

First and only book of its kind issued in America. Simple and clear descriptions, aided by 500 illustrations. Fully indexed. Invaluable in learning the language. Lord's Prayer and sample sentences given in signs in appendix. Price \$2.00, postpaid. To be had of the author, J. Schuyler Long, 315 Platner St., Council Bluffs, Iowa; or C. W. Charles, School for the Deaf, Columbus, Ohio.

BACHEBERLE'S INTERSTATE DIRECTORY OF THE DEAF.

The latest and best directory of fourteen states (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Western Penna., West Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri, Eastern Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin). Contains about 8500 names with latest addresses. 200 pages Price 75 cents each, postpaid. Address L. J. Bacheberle, 2421 Moerlein Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio, or your nearest agent if known.

"THE OHIO CHRONICLE."

A paper published by the Ohio School for the Deaf at Columbus every week during the school year. Gives the school news of each week, news about the ex-pupils and other schools. Price only 75 cents per year. Address, The Ohio Chronicle, Columbus, Ohio.

"AROUND THE WORLD IN SILENCE."

Is a charming book of travel written by a deaf lady. 230 pages. Sixty illustrations from photographs taken by herself. Finely printed and bound in red cloth. Price \$1.00 (10 cents more for postage). Address, Miss Ethelburga Zell, Station A., Columbus, O..